

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 MCT-01 HA-05 AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00

PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01

USSS-00 CA-01 A-01 SCS-06 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05

DODE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /114 W

-----075209 102241Z /21

P R 102200Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9521

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB PE

SUBJECT: STRIKES CONTINUE

REF: LIMA 3019

1. THE STRIKE IN AREQUIPA CONTINUES WITH INCREASING EFFECTIVENESS AND THE GOP IS RUMORED TO BE CONSIDERING IMPOSING MARTIAL LAW THERE. A MOLOTOV COCKTAIL THROWN AT A BUS CAUSED THE DEATH OF ONE WOMAN PASSENGER AND SEVERELY BURNED TWO OTHERS AND THE HOUSE OF THE CHIF OF GOP SECURITYFORCE (PIP) IN AREQUIPA WAS DAMAGED OVER THE WEEKEND BY A HOMEMADE BOMB.

2. BUSES AND TAXIS ARE NOT RPT NOT RUNNING, CONTRUCTION WORK IN THE CITY HASSTOPPED AND MOST SMALL BUSINESSES ARE SHUT DOWN. BUSINESSMEN IN AREQUIPA THINK IT LIKELY THAT THE STRIKE WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE WEEK. RAILROAD WORKERS HAVE NOT JOINED THE STRIKE, BUT MOST OTHER UNION MEMBERS ARE STAY-ING HOME EITHER IN SUPPORT OF THE STRIKE OR FROM FEAR.

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3. HUNGER STRIKERS CONTINUE THEIR PROTEST IN AREQUUPA, AS WELL AS TRUJILLON AND CUZCO. ABOUT 2,300 MINERS IN THE GOP-OWNED CERRO DE PASCO COMPLEX HAVE GONE ON STRIKE. WORKERS AT THE SOUTHERN PERU COPPER CORPORATION SMELTER AT ILO ALSO REMAIN ON STRIKE WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF EARLY SETTLEMENT.

4. APART FROM THE BUS AND BOMB INCIDENT, AREQUIPA HAS HAD LITTLE OTHER SERIOUS VIOLENCE. HOWEVER, LACK OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND THE EXTENSION OF THE STRIKE TO PERU'S FAWCETT AIRLINE IN AREQUIPA MAKE AIR TRAVEL IN AND OUT OF THE TOWN VERY DIFFICULT. ADDITIONALLY, ALL BANKS AND MANY SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS ARE CLOSED. DEPARTMENT AND INFO ADDRESSES MAY WISH TO ADVISE ANY PROSPECTIVE TRAVELLERS TO AREQUIPA OF THESE PROBLEMS.

DECON DEC 1980.
SHLAUDEMAM

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NNN

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